



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES  
Internal Services Department

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Dave Lambertson  
Director

*To enrich lives through effective and caring service.*

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January 11, 2007

To: Each Supervisor

From: Dave Lambertson *Tom Tindall*  
Director *fu*

Subject: **NOTICE OF INTENT TO ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS FOR SOLE  
SOURCE AGREEMENTS WITH M/A-COM, INC. FOR THE  
COUNTYWIDE INTEGRATED RADIO SYSTEM (CWIRS)  
RECONFIGURATION**

This is to notify your Board that the Internal Services Department (ISD) intends to enter into sole source negotiations with M/A-COM, Inc. (M/A-COM) for agreements related to planning and implementation of the frequency band reconfiguration of the Countywide Integrated Radio System (CWIRS).

**Background**

In a memo dated October 26, 2006, ISD informed your Board of certain activities we would be undertaking in 2007 related to the frequency band reconfiguration of CWIRS.

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has mandated that public radio systems throughout the country that utilize the 800 MHz frequency spectrum, including CWIRS, be reconfigured to utilize frequencies in a different portion of the 800 MHz band. This is required to eliminate interference caused by Sprint Nextel Corporation (Sprint Nextel).

Because Sprint Nextel was determined to be the cause of the interference problem, the FCC has required that Sprint Nextel provide funding for licensees nationwide to reconfigure their systems. In addition to agreements with Sprint Nextel to provide funding, the County will be entering into agreements with M/A-COM to plan and implement the reconfiguration. These agreements will be presented to your Board for approval.

### **Justification For Sole Source Agreements With M/A-COM**

Sole source agreements with M/A-COM for both the planning and implementation phases are required for the following reasons:

1. CWIRS was acquired in 1993 as a result of a County competitive bid process, resulting in the implementation of a radio system designed and manufactured by M/A-COM.
2. The CWIRS M/A-COM radio system is proprietary. Equipment, upgrades and necessary expertise on system design and operation can be obtained only from that vendor. Replacements and upgrades to the components and software must match or inter-member with the existing system. They cannot be substituted without replacing the entire system, which would result in significant cost to the County.

### **Next Steps**

In accordance with your Board's policy, we will proceed to enter into negotiations with M/A-COM in two weeks unless we hear to the contrary from your offices.

Please contact me or your staff may contact Tom Tindall, Chief Deputy, at (323) 267-2103 should you have any questions or concerns.

DL:DM:dm

c: Chief Administrative Officer  
Chief Information Officer  
ISD Board Deputies